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contact spring is secured by means of a screw. The contact element 37 extends into the region of the undercut 35 of the seal 32 and is provided with a contact cusp or a rounded contact end 39. The rounded contact end 39 serves for the electrical contact of a rim region of a surface 40 of the wafer 31 that faces the process container 2. The electrically contacted rim region of the surface 40 of the wafer 31 is disposed radially beyond a contact region between the surface 40 and the seal 32, and is thus insulated relative to the interior of the process container 2.

REMARKS

In light of the foregoing amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Becker

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for applicant

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the entire paragraph on page 12, beginning on line 5 and continuing through line 14, with the following:

On the outer side of the container wall 9 a contact element 37 in the form of a contact spring is secured by means of a screw. The contact element 37 extends into the region of the undercut 35 of the seal 32 and is provided with [_____ cusp on??] a contact cusp or a rounded contact end 39. The rounded contact end 39 serves for the electrical contact of a rim region of a surface 40 of the wafer 31 that faces the process container 2. The electrically contacted rim region of the surface 40 of the wafer 31 is disposed radially beyond a contact region between the surface 40 and the seal 32, and is thus insulated relative to the interior of the process container 2.